

# The Romulus News

APRIL 18, 1997 – MAY 1, 1997

"the little paper"

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 19

## Timely Tidbits ...

### Used-book Sale

If two of your favorite things are a book and a bargain, you won't want to miss the Romulus Friends of the Library Club's upcoming used-book sale, to be held at the Romulus Public Library (located at 11121 Wayne Road, next to City Hall) from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, April 21; Tuesday, April 22; Wednesday, April 23; and Thursday, April 24; and again from 12 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 26 ("bag day"—extra discounts).

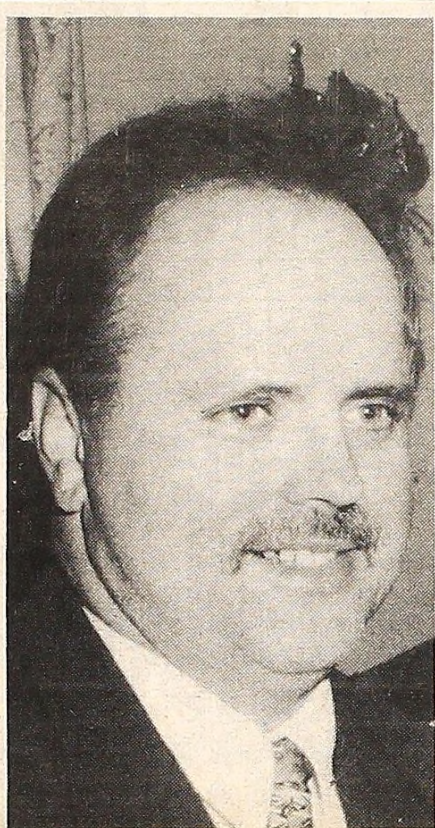
Local residents are also asked to scan their home libraries for books (either hardback or paperback, in good condition) to donate. Books can be dropped off at the Library during its regular business hours: Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m.

### Free "Mini Health Fair"

Oakwood Hospital-Annapolis Center will sponsor a free Mini Health Fair on Monday, April 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Romulus Senior Center (located at 36515 Bibbins in downtown Romulus). Adults of any age can participate in this event, which will feature testing for height/weight/body composition, blood pressure, total cholesterol, glucose, pulse oximetry (lung function), hearing, and more. A take-home colorectal screening kit and health-related literature will also be available. For information, call 942-6852.

### No-fee Yard Sales

Last year's "City-wide No-fee Yard Sale" — held during the Memorial Day holiday weekend — was such an enormous success that it's back by popular demand. This year's free permits are good for four days: May 29–June 1. In order to give the Recreation Department time to compile a list of sale sites for flyer distribution and submission to local newspapers, permit applications must be filled out at the Recreation office no later than Friday, May 16. For more information, call 942-6852. □



Edward G. Mulka

## Mulka To Run for State Rep

*Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series of articles on candidates seeking the 22nd District's State Representative Seat, recently vacated when Greg Pitoniak resigned his office to accept an appointment as Mayor of Taylor. Candidates Susan Cislo, Wayne Avery, and Raymond Basham were covered in our January 24, March 7, and March 21 editions, respectively. Future articles will cover candidates Rick Butkowski and Kevin J. McGuckin.*

Edward G. Mulka is one of six candidates running for State Representative of the 22nd District in an upcoming primary, which Governor John Engler has set for May 20. Mulka will vie with Taylor residents Wayne Avery, Raymond Basham, Susan Cislo, and Kevin J. McGuckin for the Democrat's spot in the June 17 general election; only Rick Butkowski of Taylor came forward as a Republican candidate.

A 40-year resident of Taylor, Mulka is a master gardener who puts his ex-

pertise to good use as the president of Michigan Turf, Inc. His professional affiliations include membership in both the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association and the Michigan Trade Association.

Given Mulka's vocation, it's no surprise to find that he is also an avid environmentalist. Working to ban the operation of hazardous-waste injection wells throughout Michigan, as well as limiting the import of waste from other states and nations, are two of Mulka's top priorities.

"If the United States Congress would pass legislation allowing states to establish their own regulations concerning the transport of wastes across their borders, then I would support the efforts of Michigan legislators who want to keep our state beautiful by banning the import of other people's trash."

Mulka is also committed to improving the quality of Michigan's existing

*continued on page 6*

## Whirlwind of Talent Will Blow You Away in Student Production of "The Wiz"

With tornado season just around the corner, what could be more timely than the Romulus High School Drama Club's production of "The Wiz"?

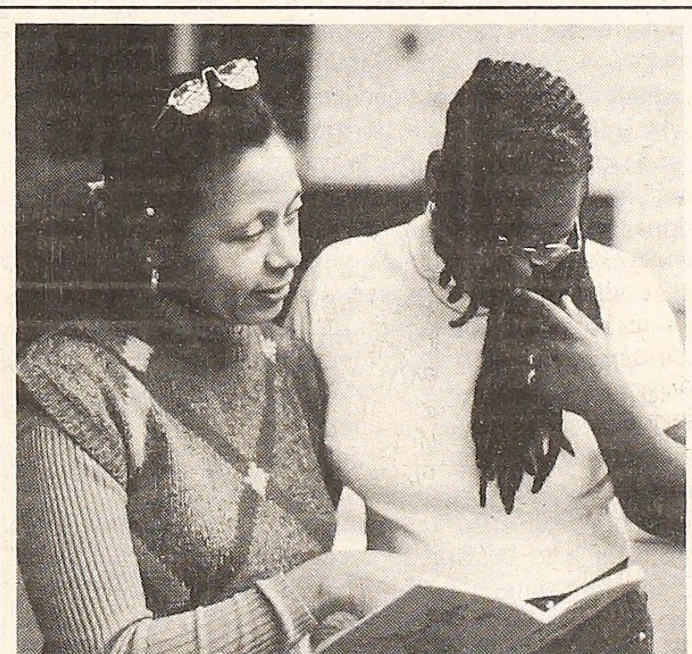
Nearly every weekday since early February, more than 50 Romulus students (including 40 who will perform on stage) have worked hard after school to perfect their production of this well-known adaptation of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Music director Judy Thompson-Barthwell feels confident that the play — which features a lot of dancing and singing — will be outstanding because the actors have shown extraordinary dedication in rehearsing their routines as well as their lines.

"Our students are very talented, and have worked really hard to make this a professional production," boasted Thompson-Barthwell.

"Everyone is very nice, and working on this play has been lots of fun. It has been an experience I'll never forget," said ninth-grade actor Leon Deleon, who has attended Romulus schools since kindergarten. Freshman Nicole Miela added, "It's pretty cool. Although it takes a lot of time, it's well worth the work and study." Sophomore Sutia Sutton put it plain and simple: "I love to perform!" she cried.

The artistic director of this year's production, Kathi Bush, is new to Romulus, but has a wealth of experience with live theater. According to Thompson-Barthwell, Bush's professional manner and flair for organization help her make the most of her innovative ideas, such as the creation of a "walk-on chorus" to give students more stage presence in the production.

"The Wiz" will be performed in the auditorium at Romulus High School (located at 9650 Wayne Road) at 7 p.m. on



RHS student Sutia Sutton (right) reviews her lines with music director Judy Thompson-Barthwell.

Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 20. About 400 tickets were sold for last spring's student production of "Annie"; students, staff, and parents hope to double that figure for "The Wiz." Tickets (\$6 for adults/\$4 for students and senior citizens) will be available at the door. For more information, contact Thompson-Barthwell at 941-2170, ext. 503. □



# Guest Commentary

## Destination: Better Roads

By Congresswoman Lynn N. Rivers

"Good roads are the highways to wealth," stated General Roy Stone, the first director of the Office of Road Inquiry, the agency known today as the federal Highway Administration. Over 100 years ago, General Stone understood that a reliable transportation system is an essential element of a strong economy.

Every day we depend on our roads to commute to work, to transport goods and services, to take our children to school, and to take vacations. If you live in Michigan, you know that the melting snow has revealed new potholes in our roads. On some roads, such as Michigan Avenue, it seems as if potholes are spreading contagiously. The Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation, Robert Welke, summed up the condition of our roads by explaining that Michigan is currently experiencing, "pothole season."

How can we rescue our roads from being consumed by potholes? We can spend more to repair and maintain them. Funding for roads is provided by both federal and state governments. Local and state roads are built and maintained with state funds. Interstate roads are funded jointly with 80% federal monies and 20% state monies.

On the federal level, Congress will be required to tackle the issue of transportation funding by the expiration of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) on September 30, 1997. ISTEA (pronounced ice-tea) provides federal funds for designated federal projects including: highway construction, maintenance of roads and bridges, improvements in air quality, and bicycle paths. With the expiration of ISTEA approaching, Congress is considering proposals for allocating scarce dollars to needy states. One of the most contentious issues in the debate is the formula which specifies the criteria for the disbursement of funds. Historically, Congress has funneled money according to a need-based formula. The complex formula is skewed to favor the Northeastern states, where our nation's oldest and busiest highways are crumbling, and the Western states, where relatively small tax bases must support the large interstates.

Many members of Congress agree that the current allocation system is based on outdated criteria which are no longer relevant. For instance, the ISTEA formula was calculated on 1970 estimates for the 1980 census. The difficulty in altering the formula derives from the fact that states benefiting under the

current system fear that making major changes will result in the loss of their favorable funding levels.

Under the current formula, Southern and Midwestern states receive less money from the government than they pay in taxes. Since the creation of the federal-aid highway program in 1956, Michigan has received an average rate of return of \$.91 for every dollar of gas tax paid. However, since the passage of ISTEA, Michigan's average rate of return has been improving. From 1992-1995, Michigan's return was \$.99 for every dollar paid.

Southern and Midwestern states are expected to wage a fierce battle against the Northeastern and Western states in search of a larger slice of the federal pie. Although more federal dollars returning to Michigan would help to improve interstate roads, the responsibility of maintaining and repairing state and local roads rests with the state government. According to a study by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the State of Michigan has been lagging behind other states when it comes to transportation spending. Michigan ranked 45th out of the 50 states in the level of effort dedicated to transportation funding. The level of effort compares spending on transportation as a percentage of total state and local spending. Michigan ranked 50th in the percentage of money spent on transportation compared with its total taxable resources, known as state wealth.

Everyone benefits from a reliable, well-maintained system of transportation. Without good roads, mobility of our goods and services will be restricted and economic opportunity will be hindered. Funding the construction and repair of our roads should be treated as a budget priority for both the state and federal governments. □

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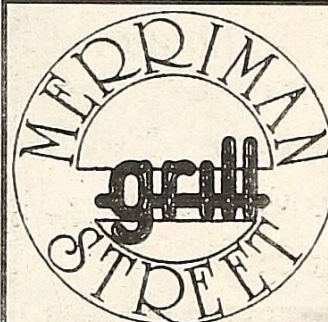
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## Halecreek Prepares for a Fabulous Spring Fair



The Halecreek PTG and school community is in the process of preparing for Halecreek's annual Spring Fair, to be held at the school on Saturday, April 26, from 12 to 3 p.m. Fun Services, a school fair service company, will provide new games and prizes for this year's event, which will also feature a cake walk, food, games, door prizes, and prizes galore! All community children and their parents are welcome. Tickets are 25 cents each at the door.

## Local Optimists Join National Effort To Raise Awareness

The Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club is participating in a nationwide effort to educate parents and care-givers about the special precautions that parents and caregivers must take when driving children in cars with airbags. The "Always Buckle Children in the Backseat" public education campaign is the result of a new partnership between Optimist International and Morton International, a leading manufacturer of airbags.

"This new program is designed to ensure the safety of all children by educating parents about the proper placement of children in vehicles," said Jennette Nolen, president of the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club. "We are seeking support from local retailers, auto dealers and rental agencies, educators, health-care providers, and community leaders to help us spread the A-B-C message."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has concluded that children are always safest when they are riding buckled up correctly in the backseat. A recent survey conducted on behalf of Morton International determined that many drivers do not know and do not follow the advice of safety experts to keep children safely buckled in the backseat. The "Always Buckle Children in the Backseat" campaign was launched in response to this research to spread the critical safety message to parents across the country.

The Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club members will be distributing child safety

brochures and window stickers bearing the "Always Buckle Children in the Backseat" safety message to retailers, car dealers and rental agencies, educators, health-care providers, child-care providers, and community groups now through September 1997.

"Optimists have always been strong advocates for children, and our club is committed to making a difference for those in our community with this exciting new program," Nolen said. "I urge everyone to do what they can to support our efforts and keep kids safe."

Anyone interested in more information about this program is invited to join the Club's meetings at 6:15 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Cory Elementary School, or write the Wayne-Romulus Optimist Club at P.O. Box 74763, Romulus, MI 48174. □

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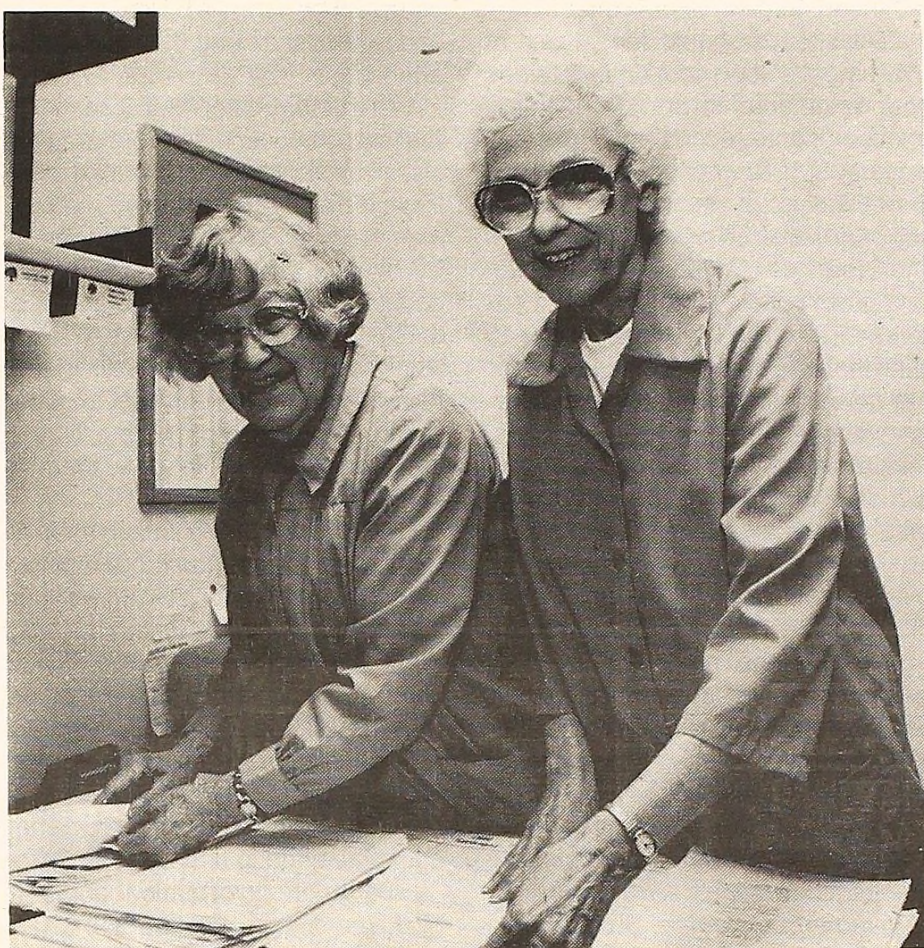
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## Selfless Service Acknowledged During National Volunteers Week



The selfless dedication of Alberta Sabin of Romulus (right) and fellow volunteer Neva Seaward makes people's lives better.

You see them in the hallways of the hospitals or at community events like Project Health-O-Rama. You hear them talking to patients, reassuring them that things are okay. You say hello to them during a shopping break at the gift shop.

Who are these people? They are the loyal volunteers of the Oakwood Healthcare System. Some have volunteered their time for over 20 years, while others are just beginning. But they all have one thing in common: they want to help others.

This week, April 13-19, is National Volunteer Week, and to celebrate, Oakwood Healthcare System is recognizing its hospital volunteers for their contribution to the well-being of the patients, their families, the staff, and the hospital itself.

One such volunteer is Romulus' own Alberta Sabin, who works in both the newborn and pediatrics areas of Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center in Wayne. Sabin has been a volunteer with the Oakwood Healthcare System since August of 1996.

"My thought was to enjoy the hands-on work that is needed with children," says Sabin. "But I also do the mundane things that keep the units organized. You can tell that it makes a difference to the staff."

Sabin also volunteers her time at the Wayne First Methodist Church, the Lions Club, Red Cross, and the United Way.

"I like to help others," she explains.

On top of all of her volunteer work, Sabin is currently hosting two exchange students, one from Germany and one from Japan.

"Things are never dull around here," she jokes. "We've had 18 students over 30 years, most of whom were from Germany."

Sabin also spends time with her daughter Jeannie, as well as her two grandchildren, Joshua and Benjamin.

You don't have to look deeply into this special woman's life to see what an enriching experience her volunteer work has been. By finding it in her heart to give, she has also been privileged to receive in abundance. □

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## MULKA SEEKS STATE REP SEAT

*continued from page 1*

roads — even if that means cutting back on the construction of new ones.

"Poor roads should not be one of government's low priorities. Besides being detrimental to our area's transportation-oriented economy, they're also dangerous, and they cost Michigan motorists a lot of money in extra gas usage and repair bills," Mulka explained. "The State has a responsibility to keep the roads it built in good repair, but our representatives in Lansing continue to claim that funds are not available for both new construction and a comprehensive repair program for older roads. Since already overburdened taxpayers can't afford another tax hike to pay for these repairs, I believe that, if necessary, we must cut back on funds spent for new roads in order to finance the upkeep of the old ones."

Perhaps the most important of Mulka's goals is to support the education of our children — but supporting our schools, he says, is just the tip of the iceberg.

"I believe that, *on the whole*, Michigan's schools are doing an adequate job — although there's always room for improvement, of course. Still, my own

experience as a parent has shown me that there are other factors that are equally important to a child's education, and foremost among these is parental attention.

"It's unfortunate," Mulka continued, "but many households in our area consist of working parents whose frantic lifestyles are fraught with so many demands on their time that they have little left over for their children. Yet, besides being our loved ones, our children are the future of our society. If we want what's best for them and for all of us, we have to make a commitment to making children a higher priority in our lives — to *making* more time to give them the guidance they need.

"But just seeking solutions in the form of yet another tax-funded government program is not the answer here, since the outrageous taxes that we already pay, and that consume so much of our incomes, are one of the biggest reasons that people have to work so hard in the first place. The answers aren't going to be easy ones, but we need to elect people who are willing to make the effort to find them."

For more information about the Mulka campaign, call 292-6421. □

## PERK UP WITH PASTA

*continued from page 4*

In medium nonstick skillet, melt margarine; add vermicelli. Cook over medium-high heat, stirring frequently, 5-7 minutes, until browned. Add 1 cup hot water and bring to a boil; boil 5 minutes, until pasta is tender.

Remove from heat; stir in milk, raisins, sugar, orange juice concentrate, lemon zest, and cloves. Let cool slightly.

Preheat oven to 325° F. Spray a 1 1/4-quart soufflé dish with nonstick cooking spray.

In small bowl, with electric mixer on high speed, beat egg yolks until thick and lemon-colored; stir in pasta mixture. In large bowl, with clean beaters, beat egg whites until soft peaks form;

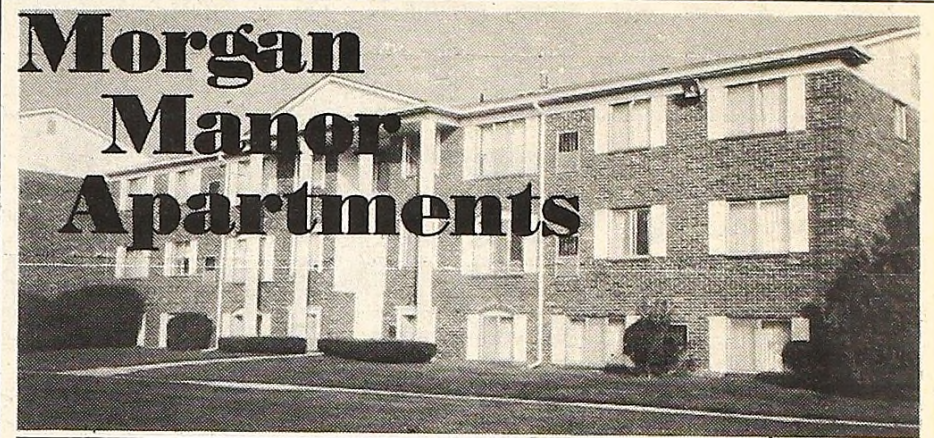
stir one-quarter of the beaten whites into pasta mixture, then gently fold in remaining whites. Do not overmix.

Pour pasta mixture into prepared soufflé dish; bake 55 minutes, or until puffed and golden brown. To unmold, invert hot cake onto platter, remove soufflé dish. Let cool to room temperature before serving.

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Per serving: 252 Calories, 10 g. Protein, 8 g. Fat, 35 g. Carbohydrate, 184 mg. Sodium, 143 mg. Cholesterol, 1 g. Dietary Fiber.

Source: *Weight Watchers Slim Ways with Pasta*, 1992. □



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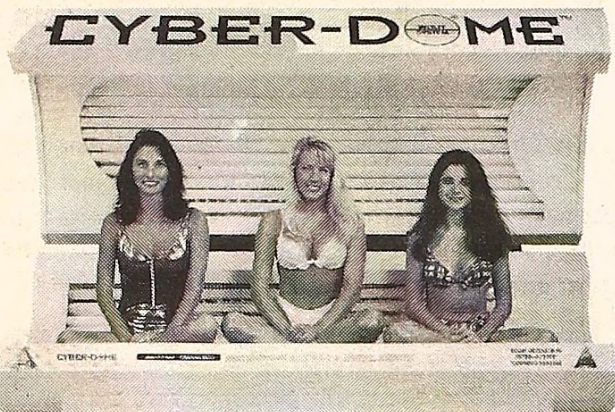
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**A Little of This and That**

Just a few "tidbits" that may be of interest ...

**Scholarships Available**

The Romulus High School Athletic Booster Club will be awarding two \$500 scholarships – one to a male athlete and one to a female athlete – at an awards banquet to be held at the High School on May 14. Application packets – available in the school's guidance office – contain information about requirements (including a 300-word essay) for application. Apply by April 30.

**Membership Drive**

The Romulus High School Athletic Booster Club is planning a special membership drive meeting, to be held in the atrium at Romulus High School (located at 9650 Wayne Road) at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 24. (Parents of incoming freshmen are welcome, as well.) Refreshments will be served.

**Say It with a Sign**

The Romulus Little League is inviting area businesses to take advantage of an offer that will benefit both the Little League and their company. Just \$100 buys a 4'x4' sign, complete with a company's name and telephone number, to be displayed on the outfield fences of Romulus Little League fields.

Funds raised from this effort will be used for field improvements.

**Miller Wins Award**

The U.S. Achievement Academy has announced that Bridgette Miller, a Romulus Middle School student, has been named a National Award Winner in Science. The award is considered an honor, since the Academy recognizes fewer than 10% of American junior-high students. Miller – who has also scored within the top 10% of Michigan's standardized testing – was nominated by her science teacher, Mr. Patterson.

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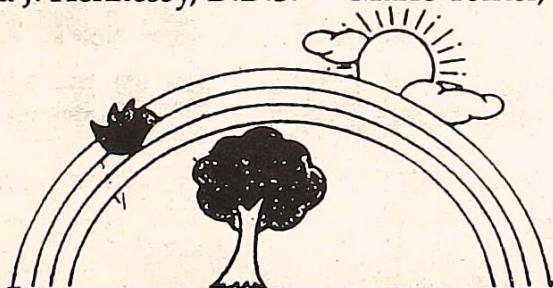
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## Community Calendar

- **Rummage Sale, Banquet/Silent Auction at St. Paul's** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at Ellis and Craig streets in New Boston) invites the public to participate in its *Rummage Sale* (Friday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and a *Banquet/Silent Auction* (Friday, April 25; doors open at 5 p.m./banquet at 7 p.m.). For more information, please call the Church at 753-9048.
- **DEQ Hearing on Well Permit** – The State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) invites the public to attend a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments and recommendations regarding the need and advisability of issuing permits to Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc., to drill and operate two disposal wells on the company's Citrin Drive property for the disposal of nonhazardous liquid wastes (and, potentially, the disposal of hazardous liquid wastes) via deep well injection. The hearing will be held in the auditorium of Romulus High School (located at 9650 Wayne Road) at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, 1997. For more information, contact Mr. Thomas Wellman of the DEQ's Geological Survey Division by writing him at P.O. Box 30256, Lansing, MI 48909, or calling him at 517-334-6951.
- **Godspell** – The Huron Civic Theatre (located at 32044 Huron River Drive, across from Michigan Memorial Park, in New Boston) will present *Godspell*, the musical based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew, on Friday, May 2 and 9, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, May 3 and 10, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 4 and 11, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults/\$8 for seniors and students. For information, call 782-5380.
- **City to Sponsor Free Dumping** – The City of Romulus Department of Public Works (located at 34100 Goddard Road) has announced that Romulus residents will be able to take advantage of free dumping on the following dates: Saturday, May 17, and Saturday, May 24, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Monday through Friday, May 19–23, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Various dumping regulations apply; dumping area is entered "at your own risk." For more information, call the DPW: 942-7579.
- **In-Balance Center Hosts Herb Conference** – The public is invited to attend the Romulus In-Balance Center's 10th annual Herb Conference, to be held at the Romulus Marriott (located at 30559 Flynn Drive) on Saturday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guest speaker: Margaret Chaney, author of *Red World/Green World*. Cost is \$35 per person; register by May 1. Call 313-941-8778 or 800-246-HERB.
- **Crafters/Vendors Wanted** – Volunteers from the Romulus Pumpkin Festival Committee are working hard to create a street festival to be held in downtown Romulus September 20–21, but they need your help to make it a success! The committee is currently taking applications from crafters, merchandise vendors, and food vendors who would like to participate, as well as entertainers who would like to volunteer to show off their talents. For crafter/vendor information or applications, please call Susan Watts at 941-0476 (before 8 p.m.) or Maria Lambert at 942-7543 (before 6 p.m.). For entertainer information, call Ellen Bragg at 942-9207 (between 3 and 8 p.m.).
- **Special Needs PAC Needs You!** – The Romulus Special Needs Parent Advisory Committee wants to serve as a communication link between parents/guardians of "special needs" children and the school district. The group hopes to increase public awareness, put on workshops, and develop a handbook for special services. For more information, call 941-7330 or 941-4249 and leave a message.

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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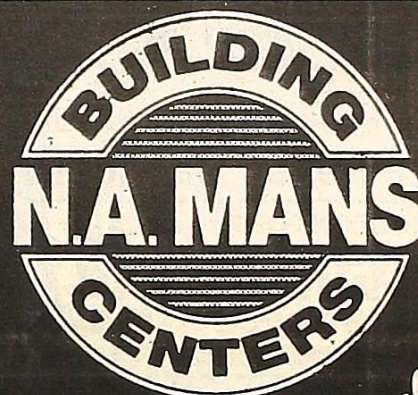
### PUBLIC NOTICE FROM ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Our school district has conducted an extensive asbestos survey of all of our buildings. Considering the findings of this inspection, a comprehensive management plan was drafted. This plan details the response actions that the district will be taking regarding asbestos-containing materials found in our buildings.

This plan is available for inspection at our offices without cost or restriction during normal business hours. If you desire to have a personal copy, please notify the Administrative Offices and it will be supplied to you within five (5) working days at a cost of \$.30 per page.

Our Administrative Offices are located at:  
 36540 Grant Road, Romulus, MI 48174.

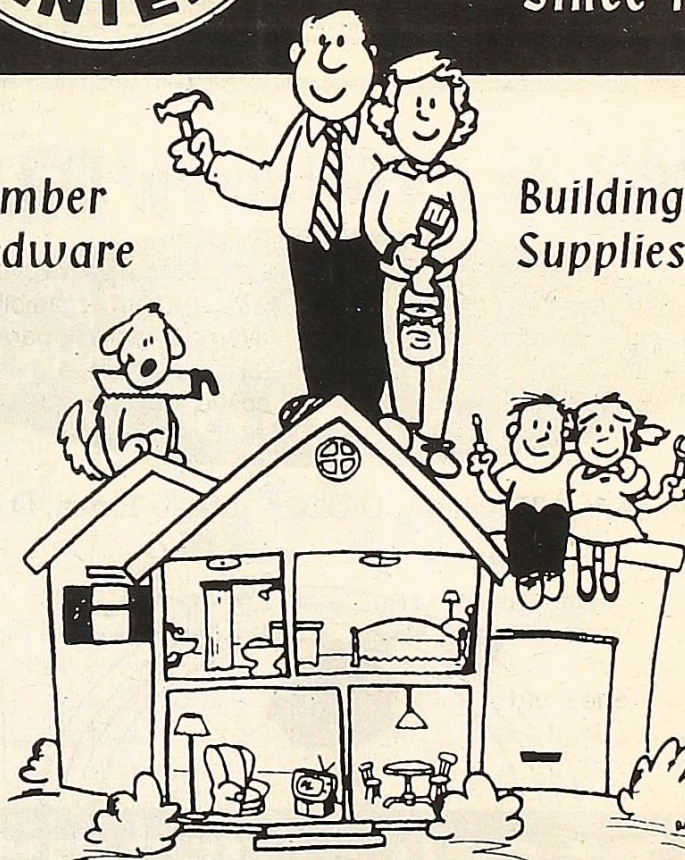
We have endeavored to make our schools a safe place in which students can learn. Our procedures for dealing with this problem reflect that concern. Please let us know if we can answer any questions.



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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (Note: For further information about events at the Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.)

### Legal Aid

Wayne County residents who are at least 60 years of age can receive free legal assistance in most civil matters at Legal Aid clinics to be held on the following dates:

- **Wednesday, April 23**  
Summit Community Center  
46000 Summit Parkway  
Canton Township  
313-397-5444
- **Thursday, April 24**  
The Information Center, Inc.  
Downriver Community Conference  
15100 Northline Road  
Suite 175  
Southgate  
313-282-7171

No appointment is necessary; seniors are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Programs begin at 9:30 a.m., and continue until everyone (limit: 25 people) who has signed up by 10:30 a.m. has been seen.

For further information, please call 313-964-5310.

### Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Brian A. Oakley's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for senior citizens – has been set for Wednesday, April 23, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Romulus Senior Center. Both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (942-6852) are welcome.

### Gentlemen Prefer Blondes

This month's \$1 movie at the Senior Center – *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell – will be shown on Friday, April 25, at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

### A Bag of Groceries and a Hot Meal

On Monday, May 5, the Romulus Senior Center's van will be taking local seniors with low incomes to the Women's Relief Corp (located at 25465 Brest Road in Taylor), where they will receive a bag of groceries (please bring your own brown paper grocery bag, if you have one) for a \$2 donation. Proof of income, a Social Security card, and picture ID must be furnished by all recipients. Cost of transportation is \$.1. Sign up at the Center.

### Law Day

Seniors are invited to attend a Law Day "mock trial" – to be presided over by 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green – on Tuesday, May 6, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served afterward. For more information, call the Center. (Special thanks to local attorney Brian A. Oakley and Romulus police officer Tom Ellis, who have been a big help with the planning of this program.)

### Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about this or other special trips planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852.

- **Sauder Village** – Travel to Archbold, Ohio, to enjoy an interesting afternoon exploring the Sauder Village "20th-century homestead," including working demonstrations by master craftsmen and craftswomen. The \$39 cost of this one-day trip, set for Monday, May 5, also includes lunch at Sauder's own Barn Restaurant.
- **Bay Mills Resort & Casino** – Those who love to flirt with Lady Luck won't want to miss this overnight excursion to the Bay Mills Resort and Casino in Brimley, Michigan. The \$115 cost of the trip, which departs on July 14, includes round-trip motorcoach transportation, one night's accommodations, one breakfast, one dinner, and \$40 total cash back from casinos in St. Ignace and the Soo. Your final cost is only \$75!
- **Pair-A-Dice** – This overnight outing which features gambling aboard a riverboat casino is paradise, indeed, for those who love to wager! The \$61 cost of the trip, which departs June 23, includes round-trip motorcoach transportation; one night's accommodations at the Pair-A-Dice Hotel in Peoria, Illinois; casino gambling aboard the Pair-A-Dice Riverboat; and three full meals.

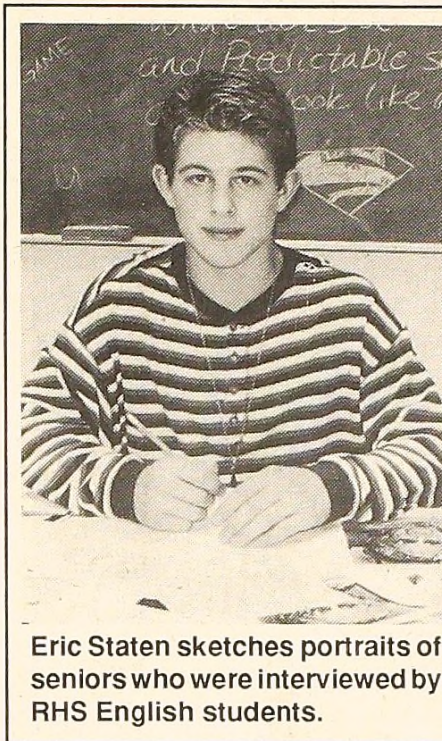
### Free Blood-pressure Readings

Community Emergency Medical Service conducts its free blood-pressure checks at the Center on the fourth Monday of every month at 1 p.m. No advance registration is required.

### Hot Lunch

For just \$1.50, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make a reservation. Home delivery of hot meals is also available for qualified individuals. For information about Meals on Wheels, call 1-800-851-1454. □

## Senior Citizens Offer Students a Unique Perspective



Eric Staten sketches portraits of seniors who were interviewed by RHS English students.

Romulus High School (RHS) freshman Eric Staten was one of many students who recently interviewed local senior citizens as part of an assignment from RHS English teacher Cathy Uhring, and then used the information that they gleaned from the interviews to write short biographies.

"Interviewing people, and learning about their life and how things were different for them, was a real learning experience for me," said Staten.

"And that," added Uhring, "is precisely the reason for the assignment. Students' writing takes on an entirely different perspective when it is based on interaction with a real person who can tell them about real life."

The biographies will become part of a historical book that will be presented to the Romulus Historical Society, as well as to each senior citizen who participated in the project. □

## Chamber Honors Clark at "Person of the Year" Banquet



Geneva Clark (seated, center) and her proud family at the 17th annual Person of the Year awards banquet, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce at the Romulus Marriott on Friday, March 21. Clark was honored for her years of dedicated community service, especially her work with developmentally challenged kids and adults through her Eager Beaver program.



Also at the banquet to honor Clark (third from right) were previous award recipients: (from left) Bill Crane (1993), Hilda Block (1996), Dan Bales (1989), Dick Kruse (1991), Bill Simonds (1980), Beverly McAnally (1992).

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## Just Married

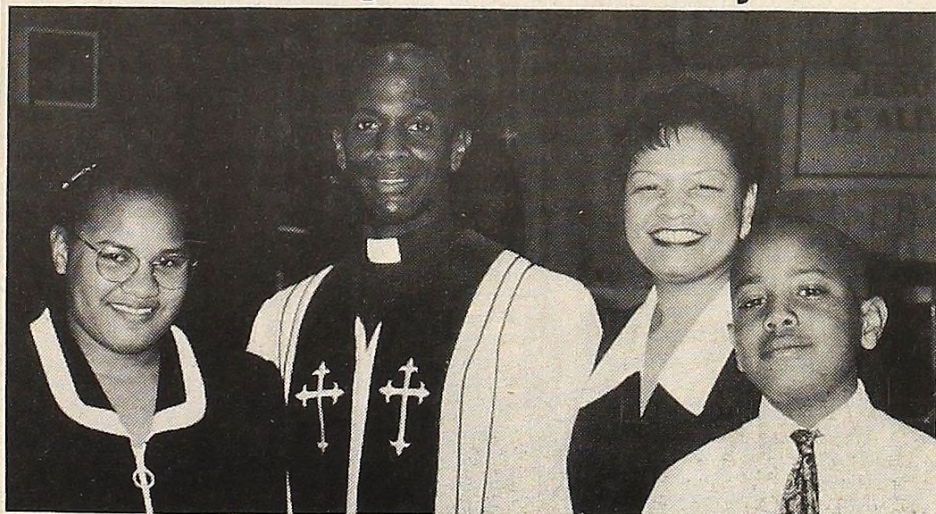
### Ronald and Victoria (Kowal) Brugger



Congratulations to Ronald R. and Victoria L. (Kowal) Brugger, who were married in Cancun, Mexico, on February 15, 1997. Ron is the son of Libby Yeager of Dearborn; Victoria is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Roberge of Hale.

## Congratulations

### The Virgil Humes Family



Best wishes to the family of Reverend Virgil Humes, who will celebrate the seventh anniversary of his pastorate at the New Hope Baptist Church (located at 5403 Wayne Road in Wayne) on Sunday, April 27. Members of the congregation at New Hope Baptist invite the community to join them on this special day, the events of which will include various services featuring guest preachers (7:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 3 p.m.); breakfast (9 a.m.); Sunday school (9:30 a.m.); and dinner (1 p.m.).

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

### REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 24, 1997

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, March 24, 1997 was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by President Kenneth E. Berlinn.

Roll call showed Member Langley absent (excused). Administrator Thomas Dolan was absent (excused).

Mrs. Langley entered the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Kenneth E. Berlinn.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

3/97/9 Moved by Oleszkowicz supported by Gondek to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

3/97/10 Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi to approve the Minutes of March 10, 1997 as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

##### Personnel Actions (Information Only)

Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions as an informational item to the Board of Education. 1) Employment: Jennifer Madison, Paraprofessional, Merriman Elementary School, Effective March 10, 1997; Lisa Torres, Kindergarten Paraprofessional, Wick and Halecreek Schools, Effective March 11, 1997; and Stacey White, Kindergarten Paraprofessional, Merriman Elementary School, Effective March 17, 1997. 2) Resignation: Elaine Kuester, English Teacher, Baron's, Effective March 8, 1997.

##### Bills for Payment

3/97/11 Moved by Lenossi supported by Oleszkowicz to approve Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

##### Surplus Equipment

3/97/12 Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi to declare one piano at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School as surplus per the recommendation by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

##### Curriculum Report - 7-12 Science

Ms. Chris Powers and Mr. Darrel Kenyon updated the Board of Education on the science curriculum for grades seven to twelve and responded to questions as presented by administration and members of the Board of Education.

##### Proposed Police Program - High School

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, discussed the implementation of a District-wide Truancy Prevention Program with the Board of Education. Dr. Bedell also attached Officer Jeff Lazarski's proposal.

##### Academic Eligibility for Athletes

3/97/13 Moved by Oleszkowicz supported by Woods that the Academic Eligibility for Athletes be referred to the Policy Committee. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

##### Baron's Update - Executive Session

3/97/14 Moved by Gondek supported by Lenossi to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Baron's School of Choice. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:49 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 9:49 P.M.

##### Communications and Expressions from the Public

Members of the audience addressed the Board of Education and Administration relative to the operation of the School District.

##### Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with the Board of Education: 1) J.H. Student Council - Flood Relief; 2) Teacher Motyka - Parent Newsletter; 3) Medicaid Check - Outreach Claim; and 4) Letter - New State Board Member.

##### Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Michael Woods requested a report on counselors, social workers, psychologists and their case loads, etc.

Betty Lenossi complimented Dr. Bedell for his reading to the fifth grade at Barth Elementary School.

Judie Gondek was encouraging folks to participate in the Mind, Body, and Soul Symposium on April 23, 1997.

##### Executive Session

3/97/15 Moved by Gondek supported by Oleszkowicz to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 10:23 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 10:32 P.M.

##### ADJOURNMENT:

3/97/16 Moved by Woods supported by Lenossi that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Howard J. Kesner, Secretary  
Romulus Board of Education



**FELIX F. ROGALLE****Attorney at Law**

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**313-722-6141****Obituaries****John D. Manning**

John D. Manning of Canton Township, Michigan, died on Tuesday, April 8, 1997. He was 70 years old.

The former resident of Romulus, Michigan, and Jasper, Alabama, was born in Empire, Alabama, on June 4, 1926.

Surviving John are his wife, Daisy Manning; one son, Mr. John Manning (Perrington, MI); four daughters, Mrs. William (Patricia) Perry (Romulus, MI), Ms. Gwendolyn Fowler (Wayne, MI), Ms. Sylvia Rea (Romulus, MI), and Mrs. Eugene (Frankie)

Slupski (Inkster, MI); one sister, Mrs. Henry (Frankie) Moon (Jasper, AL); 25 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by one daughter and two sisters.

Funeral services were held on Friday, April 11, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Chaplain Joe Lowing (Grand Care Hospice, Livonia, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). Memorial tributes may be made to organizations dedicated to the research and/or treatment of Parkinson's Disease.

**Thelma Dorothy Murray**

Thelma Dorothy Murray of Huron Township, Michigan, died on Saturday, April 5, 1997, at the age of 84.

The General Motors retiree and member of September Days Senior Center (Belleville, MI) was born in Huron Township on December 7, 1912.

Surviving Thelma is one brother, Mr. Donald (Phyllis) Gentz (New Bos-

ton, MI). She was predeceased by four brothers and two sisters.

Funeral services were held on Monday, April 7, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend Neil Swanger (Ball Road Tabernacle, Romulus, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). Memorial tributes may be made to any charity.

**Evelyn K. (Wilks) Pollard**

Evelyn K. (Wilks) Pollard of Romulus, Michigan, died on Wednesday, April 9, 1997, at the age of 74.

Evelyn was born in Madison County, Alabama, on September 7, 1922.

She is survived by two sons, Earl D. (Kaluha, HI) and Steve B. Pollard (Inkster, MI); one daughter, Brenda Calvert (Romulus, MI); three brothers, Fred (Taylor, MI), Noland Eugene (Madison, AL), and Pat Wilks (Westland, MI); one sister, Mrs.

Dorothy Pauline Certain (Westland, MI); three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Evelyn was predeceased by her husband, Earl H. Pollard, and two brothers.

Funeral services were held on Monday, April 14, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Bernie Raudszus (Northville Christian Assembly, Northville, MI) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Cemetery. Memorial tributes may be made to any charitable organization.

**Edith M. (Delaporte) Vartan**

Edith M. (Delaporte) Vartan of Trenton, Michigan, died on Saturday, April 5, 1997. She was 77 years old.

Edith was born in Ferndale, Michigan, on March 6, 1920.

She is survived by three daughters, Ms. Susan Lane (Romulus, MI), Mrs. Tim (Robin) Thomas (Traverse City, MI), and Mrs. Lee (Paige) VanLaningham (Independence, OR); 10

grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Edith was predeceased by one sister.

Funeral services were held at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend Neil Swanger (Ball Road Tabernacle, Romulus, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). Memorial tributes may be made to any charitable organization. □

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